

Amendment No. 1 to SB0546

Gresham
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 546*

House Bill No. 969

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 20, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

49-7-20__.

(a) For the purposes of this section:

(1) "College" means:

(A) A unit of a university offering specialized degrees; or

(B) A postsecondary educational institution offering courses of study leading to a degree; and

(2) "University" means a postsecondary educational institution that provides facilities for teaching and research, offers traditional undergraduate and graduate degrees at the baccalaureate and higher level, and is organized into largely independent colleges or schools offering undergraduate, graduate, and/or professional programs.

(b) No postsecondary educational institution may use the word "university" in its name unless the institution meets the definition of "university" as defined in subsection (a) and has been approved by a regional accrediting body so recognized by the United States Department of Education.

(c) An accredited postsecondary educational institution may not use the word "college" in its name without a qualifier, unless the institution:

(1) Meets the definition of "college" as defined in subsection (a);

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(2) Has been approved by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education to offer degree level programs; and

(3) Offers or is seeking to offer at least one (1) degree program.

(d) An unaccredited institution or accredited institution that does not meet the requirements in subsection (d) may not use "college" in its name, unless the institution:

(1) Uses a name approved by the commission prior to July 31, 2013, or, if a name change or authorization is approved by the commission after July 31, 2013, the institution uses a name that includes an appropriate qualifier preceding the word "college", such as "career", "vocational", "business", "technical", "art", or in the case of a religious institution, "Bible" or other religious term; or

(2) Uses "junior college" as a qualifier in the name of the institution; provided, that the institution has a current articulation agreement with a regionally accredited college or university. Loss of the articulation agreement shall require removal of "junior" as a qualifier, to be replaced on a schedule agreeable to the commission with an institutional name that is compliant with this section and rules as promulgated by the commission.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.